COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the—*1st of August 1932.*
17th of Karkadagam 1107.

The House met at half-past twelve of the clock with the President in the Chair. Messrs. K. G. Nayar, K. M. Ibrahim, Joseph Pettah, T. K. Nayar, S. S. Koder, K. T. Mathew, C. A. Ouseph, P. I. Varugis and Dr. A. R. Menon were absent.

Swearing in of New Member.

Mr. P. V. Subramanya Ayyar (Comptroller of Accounts) took and subscribed the oath of allegiance.

Opening Statement by the President.

President.—Hon'ble Members of the Cochin Legislative Council:—It is first my pleasant duty to convey to the House a Gracious Message from His Highness the Maharaja. The Message is as follows:—

"Members of the Cochin Legislative Council:—"It is with the greatest pleasure that I welcome the first meeting of the Legislative Council which has assembled since my accession. The Council plays an important part in the constitution of the State and I shall always follow its proceedings with the deepest interest and give to its decisions the most careful consideration."

I must also, on my own behalf, extend to all the Hon'ble Members a warm welcome to this, the most important session of the year. Unfortunately, to-day, as at the time of the last meeting, we have to bemoan the loss of a most beneficent Ruler of the State. The reign of His Highness the late Maharaja, was a time of great prosperity. The Revenues of the State increased, the Harbour project was started and many other works of benefit to the State and its subjects were undertaken. These events would, in themselves, have been sufficient to make the reign notable. But apart from and beyond them His Highness' sympathy and genial disposition gave Him a very high place in

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the minds and affections of His subjects and His demise has come as a correspondingly heavy loss to all the inhabitants of this State.

The Leader of the House will move a Condolence Resolution and it will be seconded by the Deputy President. The House will then adjourn for the day as a mark of respect to His Highness' memory.

Condolence Resolution.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar:—

Mr. President,

Sir,

I rise to perform the solemn duty of moving the following resolution:—

"This Council desires to express, with due respect, its deep sorrow at the irreparable loss sustained by the State by the lamented demise of His Highness Sir Sree Rama Varmah G. C. I. E., the late Maharaja of Cochin, and its sincere sympathy with His Highness the Maharaja, and other Members of the Ruling Family and His late Highness' Consort and children, in their sad bereavement".

This Council is the creation of His late Highness, his sole creation—a monument of His Highness' Rule—a priceless gift to us. Who, among us, who had the privilege of being present at the inauguration ceremony of this Council seven years ago, will forget the benevolent face and sweet personality of His Highness who greeted us with a message of faith, hope and good-will and wished us god-speed in the discharge of the duties that we then entered upon? I can speak with personal knowledge, and I hope it is the experience of several others among us here, that this Council had ever a very warm corner in His Highness' heart and that he always made it a point to ask every Member who visited him as to how the Council is working and whether it has fulfilled the noble object with which he instituted it. I remember vividly the questions that His Highness used to ask me every time I paid my respects to His Highness: "എന്താ പേഷ്ക്കാര, കൌൺസിൽ നന്നാ, അതുകൊണ്ട് ഉണ്ടുണ്ടാ"? ("What Peishkar, is this Council good; is it useful" and the like?) And nothing gave him more pleasure than answers in the

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